

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

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Executive Registry

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Dear Admiral Turner:

I want to extend my congratulations to you on being named Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

From the information that I have read in the newspapers and the reports that I have heard about you on television and other publications I believe that President Carter made a wise choice in picking you for the job. In fact, I believe in my own mind that you should have been the first choice.

I want you to know that millions of people stand behind you in the statement you made that you were in favor of criminal penalties for the people in government who have access the secret information concerning our national security and other top secret diplomatic affairs and that these people leak or give this information to people for public release. I believe that these people have a sacred oath and I believe that it should be required they live up to this oath and that they should know the penalty if they violate the trust placed in them by President and Congress and you and other people involved in this area.

Today I wrote a letter to the Vice-President and told him that I disagreed with his idea that it should not carry a criminal penalty and that I believed that you were the type of person that I thought should be in the job you have been sworn in to do. I also stated to him that we cannot judge today what happened many years ago as world conditions have changed and that what might look wrong today could have been correct during another period of time such as World War II.

I know that you have a very difficult job ahead of you because of some of the people that have been appointed to certain areas but I want you to know that I know and believe that you cannot tell the public everything that goes on because it has to be know in what context or situation the thing that was done created a necessary judgement that does look wrong when not taken in context. The news media leaves a lot to be desired in protecting our country as far^{as} releasing news publically just for the idea of filling space either on the air or in the newspapers. I do not believe in censorship but there are times as you know so well when certain items of information must not be released until the proper time.

Good luck to you in your new job, Admiral Turner.

Yours turly,

Louis T. Bagby

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